NUMB. CXXXVI.

The GUARDIAN.

Noctes atque dies patet atri Janua Ditis. Virg.

Monday, August 17. 1713.

SOME of our Quaint Moraliſts have pleaſed themſelves with an Obſervation, that there is but one Way of coming into the World, but a thouſand to go out of it. I have ſeen a fanciful Dream written by a *Spaniard*, in which he introduces the Perſon of Death metamorphoſing himſelf like another *Proteus* into innumerable Shapes and Figures. To repreſent the fatality of Feavers and Agues, with many other Diſtempers and Accidents that deſtroy the Life of Man; Death enters firſt of all in a Body of Fire, a little after he appears like a Man of Snow, then rolls about the Room like a Cannon Ball, then lies on the Table like a gilded Pill: after this he transforms himſelf, of a ſudden, into a Sword, then dwindles ſucceſſively to a Dagger, to a Bodkin, to a crooked Pin, to a Needle, to a Hair. The *Spaniard*'s Deſign, by this Allegory, was to ſhew the many Aſſaults to which the Life of Man is expoſed, and to let his Reader ſee that there was ſcarce any thing in Nature ſo very mean and inconſiderable but that it was able to overcome him and lay his Head in the Duſt. I remember Monſieur *Paſchal*, in his Reflections on Providence, has this Obſervation upon *Cromwell*'s Death. That Uſurper, ſays he, who had deſtroyed the Royal Family in his own Nation, who had made all the Princes of *Europe* tremble, and ſtruck a Terror into *Rome* it ſelf, was at laſt taken out of the World by a Fit of the Gravel. An Atome, a Grain of Sand, ſays he, that would have been of no Significancy in any other Part of the Univerſe, being lodg'd in ſuch a particular Place, was an Inſtrument of Providence to bring about the moſt happy Revolutions, and to remove from the Face of the Earth this Troubler of Mankind. In ſhort, Swarms of Diſtempers are every where hovering about us; Caſualties, whether at home or abroad, whether we wake or ſleep, ſit or walk, are planted about us in Ambuſcade; every Element, every Climate, every Seaſon, all Nature is full of Death.

There are more Caſualties incident to Men than Women, as Battels, Sea-Voyages, with ſeveral dangerous Trades and Profeſſions that often prove fatal to the Practitioners. I have ſeen a Treatiſe written by a learned Phyſician on the Diſtempers peculiar to thoſe who work in Stone or Marble. It has been therefore obſerved by curious Men, that upon a ſtrict Examination there are more Males brought into the World than Females. Providence, to ſupply this Waſte in the Species, has made Allowances for it by a ſuitable Redundancy in the Male Sex. Thoſe who have made the niceſt Calculations have found, I think, that taking one Year with another, there are about twenty Boys produced to nineteen Girls. This Obſervation is ſo well grounded, that

(Price Two Pence.)

that I will at any time lay five to four, that there appear more Male than Female Infants in every Weekly Bill of Mortality. And what can be a more demonſtrative Argument for the Superintendency of Providence?

There are Caſualties incident to every particular Station and Way of Life. A Friend of mine was once ſaying, that he fancied there would be ſomething new and diverting in a Country Bill of Mortality. Upon communicating this Hint to a Gentleman who was then going down to his Seat, which lies at a conſiderable Diſtance from *London*, he told me he would make a Collection, as well as he could, of the ſeveral Deaths that had happened in his Country for the Space of a whole Year, and ſend them up to me in the Form of ſuch a Bill as I mentioned. The Reader will here ſee that he has been as good as his Promiſe. To make it the more entertaining he has ſet down, among the real Diſtempers, ſome imaginary ones, to which the Country People aſcribed the Deaths of ſome of their Neighbours. I ſhall extract out of them ſuch only as ſeem almoſt peculiar to the Country, laying aſide Feavers, Apoplexies, Small-pox, and the like, which they have in common with Towns and Cities.

Of a ſix Bar Gate, Fox hunters	4
Of a Quick-ſet Hedge	2
Two Duels, *viz.*	
Firſt, between a Frying-Pan and a Pitch-Fork	1
Second, between a Joint Stool and a Brown Jug	1
Bewitched	13
Of an Evil Tongue	9
Croſt in Love	7
Broke his Neck in Robbing a Henrooſt	1
Cut Finger turned to a Gangreen by an old Gentlewoman of the Pariſh	1
Surfeit of Curds and Cream	2
Took Cold ſleeping at Church	11
Of a Sprain in his Shoulder by ſaving his Dog at a Bull-baiting	1
Lady *B*——, Cordial-Water	2
Knocked down by a Quart Bottle	1
Frighted out of his Wits by a Headleſs Dog with Sawcer Eyes	1
Of *Quinſey*	25
Broke a Vein in Bawling for a Knight of the Shire	1
Old Women drowned upon Tryal of Witch-craft	3
Climbing a Crows Neſt	1
Cheſt and Green Apples	4
Led into a Horſe Pond by a *Will of the Wiſp*	1
Died of a Fright in an Exerciſe of the Trained-Bands	1
Over Eat himſelf at a Houſe-warming	1
By the Parſon's Bulls	2
Vagrant Beggars worried by the Squire's Houſe-Dog	2
Shot by Miſtake	1
Of a Mountebank Doctor	6
Of the *Merry-Andrew*	1
Caught her Death in a wet Ditch	1
Old Age	100
Foul Diſtemper	0

This Paper is to be had of Mr. Yemes *under the* Thatch'd-houſe *Tavern in St.* James's-ſtreet; *Mrs.* Bond *at* Charing-croſs; *Mrs.* Bolter *and Mrs.* Dodd *near the* Temple-gate; *and Mr.* Round *in* Exchange-Ally.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

This Day is Publiſhed, the Second Edition of *The Law of Elections; being an Abſtract of all the Statutes now in force, to the end of the very laſt Seſſions of Parliament, relating to the Election of Members to ſerve in the Houſe of Commons. In three Sections, viz. the Duties, &c. of the Electors, the Elected, and the Officer Returning. Printed for Jacob Tonſon at Shakeſpear's Head againſt Katherine-ſtreet in the Strand.*

If any Gentlemen or Ladies have Occaſion for Dreſſes for the Maſquerade, they may be furniſhed at the Sign of the Red Perriwig in Horſen-ſtreet near Clare Market: They may either hire for the Night, or have any Dreſſes made for them as they like beſt.

AT the Requeſt of ſeveral Perſons of Quality, that have appointed to meet at the famous Water-Theatre of the late Ingenious Mr. Wiſtanly, this Day, the 13th of this Inſtant *Auguſt*, at 7 of the Clock in the Evening. There will be the ſame Performance in Water-works as uſed to be. And to oblige the Fair Sex, there will be a Banquet of both wet and dry Sweet-Meats, coming out of the curious Barrel, which will then be crown'd with a Shower of Fruit and Sweet Flowers, all playing of Water, which a Cupid will alſo preſent: And there will be an Addition of Streets ſinging upon Reeds, before a great Tempeſt of Thunder and Lightning, and Fire mingling with many Caſcades of Water, to the Expence of 500 Tuns extraordinary. And to conclude all, Incenſe will be burning, while ſoft Muſick is heard, and Sweet Flowers playing of Water. Boxes 4 s. Pit, 3 s. Firſt Gallery, 2 s. Upper Gallery 6 d. This is at the further End of Piccadilly, towards Hide-Park, and is ſhewn for the Benefit of his Widow.

The famous Spaniſh Blacking for Gentlemens Shoes that ever was inverted or uſed; it making them always look like new, never daubs the Hands in putting on, or ſoils the ſtockings in wearing; neither has it the ordinary Gloſs of German Balls, or the Intolerable noſtrum Stink of Size, but is of an agreeable Scent. It indeed makes the Shoes look extreamly neat, and mightily preſerves the Leather: All that uſe it admire it, and thoſe that once try it will never uſe any thing elſe. Sold for 2 s. 6 d. the Pot with Directions, (which will laſt 3 or 4 Months) only at Mr. John Hannam's, a Toy-ſhop at the Three Angels near Fuller-lane in Cheapſide.

LONDON: Printed for *J. Tonſon* in the *Strand*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in. 1713.